

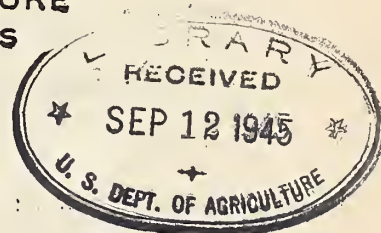
Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

FOREIGN CROPS and MARKETS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, D. C.



Vol. 47

July 12, 1943

No. 2

I N T H I S I S S U E

	Page
GRAINS -	
World Barley Crop in 1942-43 Indicated to be Record	53
Condition of Canadian Grain Crops	52
VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS -	
Paraguay's 1943 Peanut Crop Disappointing	56
COTTON - OTHER FIBERS -	
Japan Moves to Increase Cotton Production	57
Uganda Harvests Small Cotton Crop	59
LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS -	
Livestock Increasing in Canadian Prairie Provinces	60
Beef Shortage on Habana Market Persists	61
Argentine Wool Markets	52

* * * * *

- - - - -

LATE FOREIGN DEVELOPMENTS

CANADA: The condition of grain crops on June 30, as a percentage of average with last year's figure in parentheses, is reported as follows: Fall wheat 82 (103); spring wheat 115 (136); all wheat 114 (135); oats 88 (100); barley 89 (100); fall rye 84 (93); spring rye 91 (98); all rye 86 (95).

CANADA: High temperatures during the first week of July forced growth of grains on the Prairie Provinces. Moisture reserves were depleted in areas in Saskatchewan, and drought conditions in southeastern Alberta were intensified by the heat. While the crops require continued hot weather to overcome backwardness, generous rains are also needed in Saskatchewan and Alberta where rainfall since April 1 has been below needs. Manitoba, on the other hand, reports a favorable moisture situation with above-normal spring rains. Crop development shows great variation with early wheat, oats, and barley heading, in some areas. Heavy weed growth is reported in most areas. Insect damage, though severe at some points, is, on the whole, not heavy.

ARGENTINA: Wool market conditions at the end of June were relatively unchanged, with United States buying continuing in small volume. Prices of low crossbreds continued especially firm, due to speculation. Exports for week ended June 29 totaled approximately 7,243,000 pounds, 93 percent of which was to the United States. Exports for 9 months (October-June) totaled 124 million pounds, a reduction of 37 percent as compared with the same period of 1941-42.

* * * * *

G R A I N SWORLD BARLEY CROP IN 1942-43
INDICATED TO BE RECORD . . .

The world production of barley in 1942 was estimated at the record figure of 2.6 billion bushels, according to estimates made in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Gains were made in most areas, but the principal increases occurred in North America, where total production was about 45 percent above the 1941 crop and 130 percent larger than the average during the 5 years, 1930-1934.

Production in both the United States and Canada reached considerably higher levels in 1942 than their previous records. In the case of Canada the harvest was 90 percent above the previous record in 1928. The crop in the United States was 18 percent above the record outturn of 1941. In both countries the large production was harvested from seedings of record size, and unusually favorable weather resulted in high per-acre yields.

The barley crop in continental Europe was also large, as was acreage. Following the heavy winter-kill of wheat in the severe winter of 1941-42, extensive reseeding of feed grains were made in the damaged areas, thus the barley acreage was above average. In the Soviet Union, on the contrary, the crop was estimated to be below that of 1941, especially in the occupied areas.

The African estimate, which is unimportant in relation to the world total, is below the 1941 crop, mainly as the result of reduced yields, though acreage reduction was also a factor. The total production for Asia is not significantly above the 1941 level, and yields per acre were about the same as those of last year. Barley in the Southern Hemisphere is not of major importance. Virtually no changes took place in the South American estimates. In Australia, however, the harvest was about 35 percent below the 1941 crop.

Barley has assumed an increasing importance as a food grain during the past few seasons. In much of Europe, the Near East, and Africa, admixture of barley with wheat or rye has helped extend these grains to meet domestic bread-ration requirements. The substantially increased 1942 crop of barley in the United Kingdom is being partly utilized through inclusion in the National bread and will thereby reduce shipping space required for imported bread grain. Germany and other continental countries have also been using barley extensively in flour admixtures.

Malting barley formerly was also an important item in the grain trade of many countries. Under the present shipping difficulties, however, it has become necessary for deficit areas to depend largely upon local supplies, while many surplus producers have adjusted production, or diverted supplies to feed or food uses.

**BARLEY: Acreage in specified areas or countries,
average 1930-1934, annual 1939-1942 a/**

Country or area	Average :1930-1934:	1939	1940	1941	1942 b/
	: 1,000 :	: 1,000 :	: 1,000 :	: 1,000 :	: 1,000 :
	: <u>acres</u> :	: <u>acres</u> :	: <u>acres</u> :	: <u>acres</u> :	: <u>acres</u> :
North America:	:	:	:	:	:
United States	10,647:	12,738:	13,476:	14,220:	16,782
Canada	4,076:	4,347:	4,432:	5,304:	6,973
Mexico	383:	357:	344:	382:	-
Estimated total	15,100:	17,500:	18,300:	19,950:	24,200
Europe:	:	:	:	:	:
United Kingdom	1,010:	1,012:	-	-	-
Ireland	119:	74:	132:	163:	186
Spain	4,682:	3,380:	3,860:	3,884:	-
Portugal	173:	158:	151:	161:	-
Italy	524:	506:	502:	-	-
Belgium	89:	48:	57:	74:	-
Denmark	875:	1,040:	957:	930:	1,021
Norway	140:	116:	119:	-	-
Sweden	284:	258:	264:	245:	276
Finland	306:	294:	298:	326:	-
Central Europe c/	9,038:	8,833:d/	9,000:e/	8,800:e/	10,000
Balkans f/	7,952:	6,174:d/	6,300:d/	6,200:e/	6,500
Estimated total	28,300:	25,300:	26,300:	26,200:	28,500
Africa:	:	:	:	:	:
French Morocco	3,464:	4,886:	5,274:	5,419:	5,154
Algeria	3,349:	3,063:	-	-	-
Tunisia	1,210:	1,483:	865:	1,112:	1,112
Egypt	319:	273:	278:	266:	334
Union of South Africa ..	67:	-	-	-	-
Estimated total	9,100:	10,300:	9,500:	10,400:	10,200
Asia, estimated total ...	36,200:	37,300:	37,200:	36,800:	37,600
Other countries:	:	:	:	:	:
Soviet Union	18,219:	23,038:	-	-	-
Argentina	1,206:	1,633:	-	-	-
Chile	161:	132:	128:	121:	115
Uruguay	-	46:	55:	54:	65
Australia	418:	836:	617:	775:	512
New Zealand	19:	25:	32:	-	-
World, estimated total g/:	109,000:	117,000:	117,000:	116,000:	120,000

Compiled from official and unofficial sources.

a/ Data refer to harvested areas as far as possible. Estimated totals include allowances for missing data and for countries not listed. b/ Preliminary. c/ Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Luxemburg. d/ Partly estimated. e/ Unofficial estimate. f/ Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Greece, and Albania. g/ Rounded to nearest million.

BARLEY: Production in specified areas or countries,
average 1930-1934, annual 1939-1942 a/

Country or area	Average : :1930-1934:	1939	1940	1941	1942 b/
	: 1,000 :	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
North America:	: bushels :	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
United States	214,304:	278,163:	308,944:	362,082:	426,150
Canada	82,083:	103,147:	104,256:	110,566:	259,156
Mexico	3,150:	4,461:	5,089:	4,651:	-
Estimated total	300,000:	386,000:	419,000:	478,000:	690,000
Europe:	:	:	:	:	:
United Kingdom	37,567:	41,627:	-	-	-
Ireland	5,555:	3,444:	6,482:	6,670:	-
Spain	111,337:	65,128:	64,099:	77,386:	83,509
Portugal	3,000:	1,800:	1,203:	-	-
Italy	10,482:	10,816:	10,058:	9,186:	-
Belgium	4,400:	2,348:c/	2,526:	-	-
Denmark	45,303:	57,360:	52,234:	42,255:	63,842
Norway	4,893:	4,753:	4,290:	-	-
Sweden	10,103:	10,643:	8,694:	7,243:	10,181
Finland	8,235:	8,658:	7,441:	6,706:	-
Central Europe d/	280,956:	300,089:e/	205,000:c/	285,000:c/	328,000
Balkans f/	145,512:	120,316:e/	115,000:e/	116,000:c/	123,000
Estimated total	744,000:	724,000:	688,000:	690,000:	800,000
Africa:	:	:	:	:	:
French Morocco	52,779:	72,674:	49,994:	63,786:	47,073
Algeria	35,350:	50,522:	16,500:	32,000:	-
Tunisia	8,727:	16,075:	4,134:	9,186:	9,645
Egypt	10,107:	10,939:	11,072:	9,667:	12,710
Union of South Africa..:	1,046:	1,441:	1,653:	1,906:	-
Estimated total	113,000:	155,000:	88,000:	120,000:	108,000
Asia, estimated total ...:	724,000:	754,000:	728,000:	690,000:	705,000
Other countries:	:	:	:	:	:
Soviet Union	g/247,278:	-	-	-	-
Argentina	27,104:	33,349:	31,645:	16,994:	16,075
Chile	4,741:	3,361:	3,454:	3,230:	3,204
Uruguay	-	520:	286:	425:	679
Australia	7,836:	16,251:	7,429:	17,663:	11,375
New Zealand	657:	954:	1,111:	-	-
World, estimated total h/:	2,178,000:	2,400,000:	2,335,000:	2,325,000:	2,600,000

Compiled from official and unofficial sources. a/ Northern Hemisphere harvests combined with those following in Southern Hemisphere. Estimated totals include allowances for missing data and for countries not listed.

b/ Preliminary. c/ Unofficial estimate. d/ Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Luxemburg. e/ Partly estimated. f/ Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Greece, Albania. g/ Beginning with 1933 estimates reduced 15 percent to take account of harvesting losses. h/ Rounded to nearest million.

* * * * *

V E T E T A B L E O I L S A N D O I L S E E D S**PARAGUAY'S 1943 PEANUT CROP
DISAPPOINTING**

This is the second year in succession that Paraguay's peanut crop has fallen short of expectations. Recent information indicates that production is about the same as that of 1942, when only 3,000 short tons were reported.

For several years the Government has advocated expansion in peanut acreage. Plantings for the 1943 harvest were reported to be five or six times greater than a year earlier, but unfortunately many plants were destroyed by pests, and the severe drought early this year did further damage. It is understood, however, that acreage will again be increased, so that, with normal growing conditions, the 1944 crop should show satisfactory results.

Exports of peanuts have not been permitted since March 1942; and in April of this year exports of all edible fats and industrial tallow were prohibited. The latter action was the result of fats and oils being shipped out of the country in quantities sufficient to deplete stocks necessary for domestic requirements.

Peanut oil is especially favored in Paraguay, where it is considered superior to cottonseed oil. Since cottonseed is a byproduct of cotton, it is produced in greater volume than other oilseeds. In past years, both seed and oil were exported. Other oilseeds grown in Paraguay are tung, castor beans, and coconuts.

**PARAGUAY: Production of peanuts and cottonseed,
1937-1943**

Year	Peanuts	Cottonseed
	Short tons	Short tons
1937	24,251	29,571
1938	18,638	20,305
1939	a/	13,350
1940	a/	13,092
1941	13,943	12,889
1942	3,300	13,962
1943	b/ 3,000	b/ 10,090

Compiled from Official Sources.

a/ Not available.

b/ Estimate.

- - - - -

C O T T O N - O T H E R F I B E R S

JAPAN MOVES TO INCREASE
COTTON PRODUCTION . . .

Japanese Government officials have reported progress in carrying out their 5-year plan of increase in cotton production throughout the so-called "greater East Asia co-prosperity sphere." The last such plan was announced in August 1942 and provides for annual increases in cotton area until, by 1946, approximate self-sufficiency within the sphere has been obtained.

Normal cotton production on the Japanese Islands themselves is less than 1,000 bales, and no increase of any significance there is possible, even at the expense of food crops. Average consumption in Japan during the 5-year period 1935-1939 was equal to more than 3,000,000 bales of 478 pounds, and the bulk of imports was from British India and the United States, with relatively small amounts from Egypt, China, and Brazil. Trade with these countries, except for occupied China, is now impossible, so that Japan is almost entirely dependent on occupied territories for raw cotton.

A 10-year plan has been in operation in Taiwan since 1939, with the hope of annually increasing cultivation by approximately 17,600 acres from an estimated base of 21,573. Cotton was not raised commercially in Taiwan until 1937, when 15,000 acres were under cultivation with production equivalent to 3,000 bales. Difficulties in carrying out the plan have been experienced through the long, tedious program of education required for the inexperienced farmers, crop failures, and a general preference by the farmers for the cultivation of food crops.

Chosen and Manchuria, with cotton production of approximately 200,000 bales in one and 75,000 to 80,000 in the other, have lacked between 75,000 and 150,000 bales of being self-sufficient during the years immediately prior to 1941. In that year, however, Manchuria had a crop of approximately 115,000 bales, compared with consumption of less than 180,000. Climatic conditions, however, make further increases improbable.

Kwangtung Province in occupied China was placed under a 5-year plan in 1939 with the goal of 14,700 acres planted to cotton by 1941 and 24,500 in 1942. Serious difficulties have been encountered through preference by the farmers for staple cereals.

Thailand, French Indochina, and the Netherlands Indies have all been placed under the 5-year plan of increased production. Special Government appropriations were begun in Thailand in 1935, and, beginning with that year, production has been equivalent to between 6,000 and 11,000 bales annually, compared with 2,000 to 4,000 in preceding years. Less than half of the crop is exported. In Indochina production ranges from 6,000 to 8,000 bales, and since 1934 less than 2,000 bales have been exported annually.

- - - - -

Last year the Japanese sent experts into the Netherlands Indies to make a survey of resources and possibilities of cotton production, and this year new cotton areas have been started on a small scale as the beginning of a 5-year plan, including Sumatra, Java, the Celebes, and other smaller islands of the Sunda group. The goal for that region is to increase average acreage of less than 22,000 to more than 200,000 by the end of the 5 years.

Improvement in quality of Indies cotton is planned through the importation of some of the seed from Burma. Unfavorable climate and pests of various kinds will have to be combatted. Activities in Sumatra seem to stress production of foodstuffs more than the growing of cotton, although increases are planned for various fiber crops, including cotton and flax. Difficulties will be encountered with irregular rainfall on some of the islands, the need for soil experimentation, and the disappointing results obtained because of the general inexperience of the natives in growing the new crop. Japan, however, is planning to do everything possible toward working out the plan by education, the setting up of experiment stations, and the offering of prices high enough to be attractive.

Burma's normal exports of nearly 90,000 bales annually are now available to Japan if the pre-war rate of production can be maintained, and the present conditions of war continue. The chief source of Japanese supply, however, is China, as approximately two-thirds of the cotton area of that country is now occupied by Japan, and production plans include not only an increase of more than 100 percent in acreage but consideration of changes in the method of collecting the cotton for the benefit of the spinning industry. Many Chinese farmers find little incentive for increased cotton production, due to the difficulty of getting the crop to market over transportation routes that are either poor or almost nonexistent. Guerilla warfare has been causing a large decrease from normal production. The need of food crops is also a factor tending to restrain cotton expansion. Recent admissions are that prospects are unfavorable.

The Philippine Islands occupy an important place in plans for the textile industry that must supply the entire eastern Asiatic sphere. Production of raw cotton, which during 1935-1940 occupied an area of from 3,000 to 5,000 acres and never reached 1,000 bales, will be increased under the 5-year plan announced last August, until by 1946 the crop will be equivalent to more than 400,000 bales of 478 pounds. About 45,000 acres were planned for the 1942-43 crop and three times that area for the following year.

The principal source of increased area in the Philippines is expected to be land now in sugarcane, leaving only enough to complete the needs of the sphere for sugar and alcohol. Some land is to be shifted from jute and other fiber crops, and some from food and tobacco. The Philippines would then depend on Thailand, Burma, and French Indochina for supplemental foodstuffs. The same difficulties are being met here as in the Netherlands Indies. Shortage of labor, also, is causing delay in getting the plan under way.

The final goal of the Japanese organization of the cotton industry is self-sufficiency within the sphere for both raw cotton and textiles. During the present cotton shortage, silk, rayon, hemp, ramie, and other natural and synthetic fibers are being used as widely as possible.

Cotton spinning companies in Japan are organized on a block system. First, a group of 14 blocks was formed including the 77 companies, then a concentration of labor was formed in each block, and finally, in the third phase, the number of blocks was reduced to 8, with about 1,000,000 spindles in each block. Spindles are grouped with 30 percent of the number in operation, the same number held in reserve, and the remaining 40 percent are made available for shipment to other regions. At least 30 percent of the Japanese weaving equipment will be made available for transfer. Some of the spinning mills are still being moved from Japan to occupied China.

Most of this surplus equipment, according to plan, will be moved to the Philippine Islands, where Japanese, already in business there, will have charge of the expanded industry. Probably 20,000 spindles and 1,000 looms are already in the Philippines, with a capacity for production of about 13,000,000 square yards, or about 10 percent of estimated pre-war requirements within the Islands.

The plan includes a reduction in Philippine consumption to 62,000,000 square yards and an increase in production to 32,000,000 square yards, or 52 percent of the new consumption quota. Reorganization plans in Japan include the transfer of 1,000 looms and 50,000 spindles, 25,000 for cotton and the other 25,000 for ramie, in time to care for the 1942-43 crop in the Philippines.

UGANDA HARVESTS SMALL COTTON CROP . . .

The monthly report of the Uganda Department of Agriculture stated at the end of April that nearly 67,000 long tons of seed cotton had been sold from this year's crop, and that the lint cotton obtained was equivalent to 94,600 bales of 478 pounds each. The heaviest picking season is from December to February and probably the bulk of the 1943 cotton crop has reached the gins. Continued drought conditions, which began during the planting season last summer, have hampered growth throughout the year and caused a decrease of 71 percent from the 1941-42 crop of 322,900 bales. Distribution of seed for the 1943-44 season is well advanced, and the quantity distributed to date indicates normal plantings for the new crop. Weather conditions are favorable, and in the Eastern Province, where the earliest planting takes place, some counties already show an increase over last year.

* * * * *

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

LIVESTOCK INCREASING IN CANADIAN PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Prospects are for a large calf crop in the Prairie Provinces, with a substantial increase in sheep indicated, and good increases in the number of hogs. Estimates of livestock numbers as of June 1, 1943, are not yet available. Ranges are in good condition in the Prairie Provinces in contrast to the situation in Eastern Canada, where due to a backward spring cattle were turned into pastures several weeks later than usual. Small producers are endeavoring to increase their cattle herds while large stockmen are maintaining herds at last year's level. The demand for stockers is good. The increase in the number of beef cattle is estimated at 8 percent in Manitoba, 9 percent in Saskatchewan, and 6 percent in Alberta. In 1942 the number of cattle in the three Prairie Provinces was as follows in thousands of head, with percentage of cattle other than those designated as dairy cows and yearling heifers given in parentheses: Manitoba, 822 (46.0); Saskatchewan, 1,395 (55.8); Alberta, 1,469 (67.4).

CANADA: Relative percentage of different classes of cattle in Prairie Provinces, June 1938, 1941, and 1942

Province and year	Total cattle	Percentage of total in different classes							
		Beef				Dairy			
		Cows	Yearling: heifers	Steers	Cows	Yearling: heifers	Bulls	Calves	
	1,000 head	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent	Per-cent	
Manitoba									
1939.....	842.0	6.1	2.7	10.0	45.6	10.6	2.6	22.4	
1941 a/....	756.0	6.1	3.0	9.8	42.7	10.7	2.6	25.1	
1941 b/....	703.8	4.9	2.1	8.4	43.3	11.8	2.2	27.3	
1942.....	821.9	5.1	2.1	8.1	41.9	12.1	2.1	28.6	
Saskatchewan									
1938.....	1,128.7	6.9	3.6	6.4	44.0	10.4	2.5	26.2	
1941 a/....	1,350.0	6.8	3.8	9.4	39.4	10.5	2.5	27.6	
1941 b/....	1,245.5	8.5	3.7	10.6	34.9	11.0	1.9	29.4	
1942.....	1,395.2	8.8	4.2	11.1	33.5	10.7	1.7	30.0	
Alberta									
1938.....	1,361.6	15.6	5.9	11.2	32.4	7.7	2.3	24.9	
1941 a/....	1,458.0	17.1	5.8	11.7	28.7	7.3	2.3	27.1	
1941 b/....	1,345.0	16.5	6.2	12.8	26.9	7.7	2.1	27.8	
1942.....	1,469.0	17.1	6.5	12.6	24.9	7.7	2.0	29.2	
TOTAL CANADA									
1938.....	8,511.2	6.2	3.6	8.3	45.5	10.6	3.0	22.8	
1941 a/....	8,797.8	6.7	3.6	8.6	44.2	10.2	2.8	23.9	
1941 b/....	8,511.4	6.1	3.5	9.8	42.2	10.5	2.7	25.2	
1942.....	8,944.7	6.5	3.6	9.5	41.1	10.4	2.8	26.1	

Official sources. a/ Estimate for 1941 before census was made. b/ Based on new census so not strictly comparable with earlier estimates.

Hog numbers in Manitoba this June were expected to show an increase of approximately 20 to 22 percent above the 708,000 reported last June, Saskatchewan an increase of 20 to 25 percent above 1,325,000, and Alberta an increase of 12 to 18 percent above 2,093,000. These increases are not quite so high as the official objectives, but all three Provinces made increases during the year that were not reflected in marketings. Hog carcasses graded from January to June 1 were down considerably except in Manitoba. These three Provinces in 1942 had 41 percent of the total number of hogs in Canada compared with 39 percent in 1938. June gradings were heavy, making the total above a year ago.

Spring lamb losses were less than usual, and sheep and lambs are in satisfactory condition. The three Prairie Provinces had 1,549,000 head in June 1942, an increase of 21 percent above 1941, and another substantial increase is forecast for this year. Approximately 48 percent of the total number of sheep in Canada, estimated at 3,195,000 head, are in the Prairie Provinces. The official goal for Canada for 1943 was 3,800,000 by June 1, an increase of about 21 percent above 1942.

BEEF SHORTAGE ON HABANA MARKET PERSISTS . . .

The Habana market is still experiencing a distinct shortage of beef because of last winter's drought and the policy of the Government to maintain prices at a level so low as to discourage marketings. The ban on exports of beef also remains in effect. Since Cuba is now manifesting a desire to assume a larger share in the United Nations war effort, it is believed that exports may be resumed later this year, however, by reserving a certain percentage of the slaughter for that purpose and by the possible declaration of a meatless day in Cuba.

Although potential supplies of cattle are believed to ample, cattlemen refuse to sell at the prices decreed by the Government for the domestic market. The concurrently high price of other food products tends to encourage increased consumption of relatively low-priced beef. It was estimated that if the supply of cattle marketed at the present low prices were adequate, consumption might readily increase 30 to 50 percent.

Cattle and beef prices in Cuba are very low compared with prices in the United States or prices that could be obtained by exporting a certain percentage. During the spring of 1943 the fixed price of cattle to Cuban producers was only \$4.00 per 100 pounds on the hoof f.o.b. Camaguey, the principal production center. Cattlemen refused to sell at that price, due partly to the fact that cattle had lost considerable weight as a result of the severe winter drought. A subsidy totaling 30 to 50 cents per 100 pounds, live weight, was finally provided by the Government for cattle delivered for consumption in Habana until June 15, 1943, thus raising the total return to cattlemen to a maximum of \$4.50. Even this was not sufficient to cause growers to market their under-weight cattle, as they preferred to feed them to normal weights

before marketing. The Government had fixed wholesale prices of beef at 7.27 cents per pound, but on June 15, 1943, this price was increased to 7.95 cents per pound.

Not only have cattle prices recently been increased by the Government in an attempt to encourage cattlemen to market, but a number of regulations, 12 in all, were issued in February and March aimed at counteracting the effects of the drought and forcing orderly marketing. These regulations covered slaughter, sale, and exportation of cattle and beef products. In April, May, and the first half of June, at least 22 more decrees and resolutions were issued, the most important of which were as follows: (1) Registration of members of the cattle industry was required, (2) subsidies were provided for cattle delivered in Habana, (3) the use of cattle for manufacture of meat products was limited, and (4) hours of operation of slaughter houses were limited.

Although the Cuban Government states that it desires to encourage the cattle industry, the principal policy of the present Government has been to provide cheap meat for the laboring classes. As a result there has been relatively no rise in meat prices even though prices of other agricultural commodities have increased sharply.

Cattle receipts at Habana during the first 4 months of 1943 totaled only 60,000 head, a decrease of 25 percent compared with the same period of 1942 and 29 percent below the first 4 months of 1941. March and April receipts in 1943 were 11,000 and 10,000 respectively, compared with average monthly receipts in 1942 (exclusive of slaughter for export) of 17,000 head, which indicates that consumption in those 2 months was less than two-thirds of normal.

Owing to the fact that export prices were so much more lucrative to cattlemen than domestic prices, an important export trade in beef developed with the United States, beginning in 1936 and reaching a peak in 1941. That year 41 million pounds of chilled beef were exported from Cuba, and exports continued at the same rate through the first quarter of 1942 when the export ban was placed on beef. It was feared by the Cuban Government that the higher prices received for export beef would divert beef from the Cuban market, but recent developments appear to disprove this reasoning. When exports were large, supplies on the Habana market were larger than they have been in the past 2 years.

It was possible in 1941 to sell beef in New York at 14 cents a pound (duty paid) as compared with only 7.3 cents on the Habana market. Cuban beef is not aged as it is in the United States by being held in cold storage, and it is believed that the quality would be improved for the American consumer if it were held in cold storage for a considerable period. In Cuba, cattle are usually slaughtered early in the morning and delivered immediately to more than 300 small butcher shops, which sell it that day or next morning.

CUBA: Exports of live cattle and beef, 1938-1941

Year	Live	Beef				
	cattle	Fresh	Pickled	Sausage a/	Canned	Total b/
QUANTITY	Number	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
1938.....	48:	14:	1:	0:	12:	27
1939.....	1,415:	478:	c/	11:	14:	503
1940.....	5,934:	11,642:	520:	23:	43:	12,228
1941.....	9,974:	42,526:	1,323:	57:	651:	44,557
VALUE	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1938.....	688:	1,518:	82:	0:	2,890:	4,490
1939.....	45,889:	28,446:	98:	2,098:	2,498:	33,140
1940.....	225,025:	703,768:	11,692:	4,404:	5,662:	725,526
1941.....	400,856:	2,935,754:	53,066:	11,090:	64,168:	3,064,078

Official Cuban Foreign Trade Statistics. a/ Including various kinds of sausage, largely of beef, such as salchicon, mortadella, chorizos and morcillas. b/ Including only the items listed; in addition the following other fresh meat was exported: (thousands of pounds) 1940 - 31, 1941 - 107. c/ Less than 500 pounds.

The total number of cattle in Cuba has tended to increase since the 1940 census, which placed numbers at 5,334,813 head. Approximately 786,000 feeder calves were estimated to be produced annually, and about this number should be available for slaughter annually. It is believed that cattle tended to increase in 1941 and 1942 due to the profitable export trade. This increase may have been offset since by an increase in slaughter for domestic consumption and death losses as a result of the drought last winter. Cattle slaughter in 1942 is officially estimated at 594,000 head producing 218 million pounds of meat, or approximately 89 percent of the Cuban meat supply. Cuban beef consumption is officially estimated at 50.6 pounds per capita based on slaughter subject to tax, but since farmers are exempt from this tax, actual consumption is estimated at 70 pounds. On the latter basis, the quantity of pork consumed is estimated at 10 (official 5.8) pounds and mutton and lamb at 1 (official 0.2) pound.

CUBA: Number of cattle and number slaughtered
for domestic consumption, 1938-1942

Year	Total number: of cattle	Slaughtered		
		Number	Live weight	Carcass weight
	Head	Head	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
1938.....	5,559,024:	449,301:	237,369:	137,285
1939.....	4,900,265:	457,658:	294,032:	157,062
1940.....	5,334,813:	481,943:	314,458:	168,608
1941.....	-	510,559:	355,686:	188,114
1942.....	-	594,397:	406,705:	218,302

Cuban Ministry of Agriculture.

* * * * *

Index

	Page ::		Page
Late foreign developments	52	Cotton:	
-----		Production, Uganda,	
		1941-42, 1942-43	59
		Production plans, Japan,	
		1942-1943	57
Barley:		Cottonseed, production,	
Area, world, av. 1930-1934,		Paraguay, 1937-1943	56
an. 1939-1942	54	Grains, condition, Canada,	
Condition, Canada,		July 6, 1943	52
June 30, 1942, 1943	52	Oats, condition, Canada,	
Production, world, av. 1930-1934,		June 30, 1942, 1943	52
an. 1939-1942	53, 55	Peanuts, production,	
Beef:		Paraguay, 1937-1943	56
Exports, Cuba, 1938-1941	63	Rye, condition, Canada,	
Shortage Habana, Cuba, 1943	61	June 30, 1942, 1943	52
Cattle:		Weather conditions, Canada,	
Classification, Canada (Prairie		July 6, 1943	52
Provinces), June 1938, 1941, 1942	60	Wheat, condition, Canada,	
Exports, Cuba, 1938-1941	63	June 30, 1942, 1943	52
Number:		Wool:	
Canada (Prairie Provinces),		Exports, Argentina,	
1942	60	October-June 1942	52
Cuba, 1938-1940	63	Market conditions, Argentina,	
Prices, Cuba, 1943	61	June 30, 1943	52
Slaughter, Cuba, 1938-1942	63		

* * * * *